



# Challenger

## Street Newspaper



Austin, Texas

\$\$  
Donation  
Thank you!

January 2025  
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(157th issue) \*

www.challengernewspaper.org  
challengernewspaper@yahoo.com

512-560-4735

An Independent Press - 95% Street Written—Voices Of The Street  
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### JAN 22

# HI HOW ARE YOU! DAY



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**Mission:** The Challenger Street Newspaper advocates, informs, and connects diverse people from all walks of life. We empower street dependent campers with economic opportunity and get their viewpoints heard.

The material printed reflects the opinions of its authors.



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Michael Kurtz	



**95% Street Reporters**

*Leslie Cochran wrote for the Challenger our first 6 months.*

Clip Art used from MS Publisher  
We use century gothic font cause

Jesse G-Treasurer  
Morlog-IT  
J.T. - Laptops  
Fred Pettit—Co-Founder  
Spanish Translation: Belinda  
Web Host: DreamHost  
Web Updates: Val

**Our partners:**

Mobile Loaves & Fishes  
Treasure City Thrift  
Austin Public Library  
T.O.O.F.  
JP's P.L.H. Fndn  
Hogg Foundation  
Richard R. Troxell-N.H.C.



2023



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CONTRIBUTORS AND  
DISTRIBUTORS  
YOU MEAN A LOT!**

**Editorial Policy**

Material in the paper reflects the opinion of the author. Submissions determined to be libelous or that encourage discrimination, sexism, or violence will not be published. We ask you to proof read your article. Grammar is edited only for understanding. Editor doesn't edit your voice.

**Deadline is 2nd Sunday or the 15th.**

Should you come into contact with an individual you believe could benefit from the Homeless Outreach Street Team **(H.O.S.T.)** you can reach them at 512-804-3720

**Time for a discussion  
Challenger Will Visit  
Your Org/Hood**

**Zoom or in person**

**Understanding Homelessness and building empathy.**

**Goals**

- 1 See the whole person
- 2 Meet them where they are
- 3 Recognize that there may be invisible disabilities
- 4 Use cultural competence
- 5 Never take your eyes off the person's humanity



Contact 512 560 4735 or [challengernewspaper@yahoo.com](mailto:challengernewspaper@yahoo.com)

**NO FREEZE SHELTER:**

**NEW THRESHOLD:** 35 Degrees (Dry, wet or windy) . 24 hr notice. **HOT meal!**

**Call for status 512-972-5055 Free bus**

Single adult men and women, pets welcome, please arrive at 505 Barton Springs Rd for registration, 6-8 PM or till flow stops.. Rides to locations. Families with children, arrive by 6pm. Pets now welcome!!



**Thanks so much to  
Amber, Allen and all our  
friends in Austin  
working to help our  
unhoused neighbors.**

**John Paul DeJoria**





# UPDATE OF LEVON JONES STOLEN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

BY CLAUDIA & LEVON JONES (CHILD LABOR LAWS & RACISM CLOAK BY SCHOOL DISTRICT)

## Iconic downtown Rochester high-rise is for sale (reprinted by Claudia)

Marcia Greenwood

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle

A Rochester landmark anchoring downtown's Four Corners is for sale.

First Federal Plaza, a 383,634-square-foot high-rise topped by a flying saucer-shaped penthouse, is being offered through CBRE Upstate NY for \$10.8 million.

"The decision to put the property on the market was not easily arrived at, and it does feel a little bittersweet," Chris Hill, part of the property's ownership group, Reynolds 2 LP, said in a statement issued by CBRE.

Reached later by phone, he said it came down to the fact that Rochester's legal community, which once had a large presence in the 21-story building at 26-28 E. Main St., "has disbanded from the Four Corners after being here for 100 years," a trend accelerated by the coronavirus pandemic and the rise of remote and hybrid work. Panasonic, which in 2019 moved into the penthouse that originally was home to The Changing Scene rotating restaurant, exited after the public health crisis, Hill said. Currently, the building is 45% occupied.

CBRE is suggesting that, in keeping with local and national trends, portions of the glass and steel structure could be converted for residential use.

"There are certainly parallels to be drawn with some of the recent redevelopment projects we've seen Downtown," CBRE's Alex Amorese said in the statement. Among them: The Metropolitan (formerly Chase Tower), Innovation Square (once Xerox Square) and Tower 280 (for decades Midtown Tower).

Said Hill: "I see a canvas of an iconic building and an area that is ready for change and needs to be activated."

"Complexity is always part of the equation," CBRE's Andrew Gearhart said in the statement. "We understand that a project of this scale is not going to be for everyone. There are lots of moving parts and a variety of stakeholders. It will likely involve some type of public private partnership, but the property is well positioned for that," he said, citing New York state and federal historic tax credits related to the nomination of the Four Corners District to the historic registry and the city of Rochester's Downtown Revitalization Initiative targeting the Four Corners.

Speaking of moving parts, within the past year the old Changing Scene workings were examined, Hill said. And despite the Panasonic remodel that split the circular space into offices and previous reports that the mechanicals that made the restaurant rotate had been permanently disabled, "We were pleased to see that everything was left in place and is intact. And can be revived. There's so many awesome possibilities for this building."

First Federal Plaza opened in 1977 as the headquarters of First Federal Savings. It sits on 1.29 acres on the edge of the Genesee River, and the portion of the building facing north overlooks the newly renovated Austin Steward Plaza.

The structure has a scenic glass elevator that rises to the 19th floor and its own 156-space underground parking garage. (It also is adjacent to the Genesee Crossroads Garage, which has 604 spaces.)

In addition to a riverfront terrace, there is the potential for a third-floor rooftop space, according to CBRE.

Reynolds 2 LP is First Federal Plaza's second owner.

"I still consider myself a steward of this property, and I'm going to help see this thing through," Hill said.

(This story was updated to add new information.)

Reporter Marcia Greenwood covers general assignments and has an interest in retail news. Send story tips to [mgreenwo@rocheste.gannett.com](mailto:mgreenwo@rocheste.gannett.com). Follow her on X @MarciaGreenwood.



First Federal Plaza is for sale

Hello Miss Greenwood

In reading your article about the federal Plaza for sale, I noticed that the usual designer was not listed. Most buildings get a listing for credit of who designed them.

You may already be aware that the designer of the federal Plaza was a nine year old child who did not get credit nor recognition still to this day.

That is considered under the child labor laws.

Please research and cover who the designer is of the building for sale.

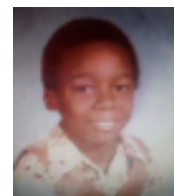
Thank you,

Valerie Romness  
Challenger Newspaper  
Austin, Texas

**Panasonic**

The same letter is also sent to Panasonic, the biggest business in the building.

Also supportive reading of previously published articles the Challenger Newspaper has covered for justice for Levon Jones for the last 2 years.



9 yr old Levon Jones, designer of the First Federal Building in Rochester, NY

Time to spend money on mental health yet?

# GONE HOME

## BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Please let the paper know if someone has passed;  
We want to remember them. A picture is nice  
Call 512-560-4735 challengernewspaper@yahoo.com

### R.I.P. THOSE WHO ARE UNCOUNTED

## Lizzardo Giganticus

Great source for vids of APD harassing Street People

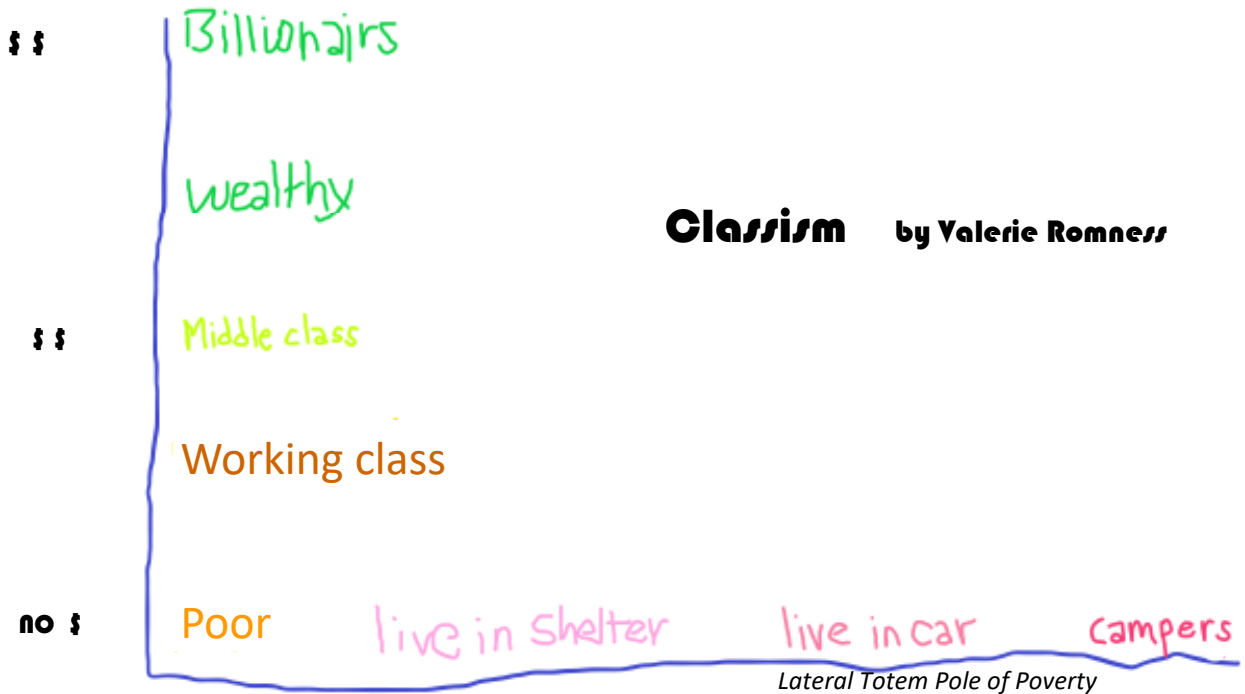
<https://www.youtube.com/@LizzardoGiganticus>

Austin Police and TxDOT steal from the poor, and hide their crimes

Austin Police commit crimes against the poor for TxDOT and with Easter Seals cheap labor

Human Kindness / House the Poor on Facebook;

Patron: Julian Reyes



NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US!

h a waste of money. That money should go towards housing people instead.



# Mobile Loaves & Fishes

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Empowering communities into a lifestyle of service with the homeless since 1998.

**WE PROUDLY SUPPORT**

*The Challenger Street Newspaper*



[mlf.org](http://mlf.org) | [@mobileloaves](https://twitter.com/mobileloaves) | [#ServingGoodness](https://twitter.com/ServingGoodness)

**PLEASE DONATE TO MLF'S Community First! Village PROJECT**

## I'LL TAKE ONE

BY TIMOTHY WARFIELD

I'm ready now to remove my mistakes  
 I'll take that kiss if it cures my stomach ache  
 I'm usually picky, but not at the moment  
 I need that kiss; pen at hand as an early enrollment

Let's celebrate the new year with a warm and wet kiss  
 I hope this horrible year I can count as a dismiss  
 Away to all the bad luck that had me stuck too many times  
 I'll take that kiss hoping to the top my luck will climb

Cheers; wish me well with the love of a kiss  
 I hope it's powerful that for a year I can reminisce  
 On brighter days and nights for the upcoming year  
 Not just my love life, but also my business career

I want to be a lucky guy and accept your new year affection  
 Light up the moment so the warmth can be seen in my complexion  
 May new doors be open as I await luck with open arms  
 I'll take one, new year kiss, as a lucky charm



## YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE YOUNG

BY THOM THE WORLD POET

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE BRILLIANT  
 It helps if you are unafraid-to speak your truth  
 (Which should also be umbrella for other people's freedoms-  
 To speak the spells that sing their liberation  
 Not so much FOR them as WITH them-a common anthem  
 of joined breath,folk song, rap battle, jazz riff-  
 that which unlocks Syrian prisons, welcoming back refugees.  
 SING OUT! in keys that unlock contemporary dilemmas-  
 Whether it is better to die for a cause than live for a reason  
 Whether failure is addictive, as in Crusades for our Greater Good  
 Whether our common humanity exceeds our individual greed  
 Whether others feel this way-or we are lone voices in city deserts  
 For there are poets who sing in Syria, and Gaza, in Palestine and Arabia  
 Seeking to extend zones of personal freedoms of expression-  
 To say what one sings in all languages of Liberation  
 To listen with respect and join in the sharing of experiences  
 To pray without expecting miracles, and yet being sustained by them  
 They live among us now. We cherish their uniqueness.  
 When your inner bird heart flutters wings  
 When your brave lion roars deep truths  
 When the sun shines with and through you  
 Perhaps you are such a poet, too?  
 We dance with you!

## OLD MAN

BY JOHN CURRAN

Old man tired now  
 He looks back on it now there's so much there now to look back on  
 So much, all of that happened  
 I was this person and then I was this person and  
 All the time it was still just me  
 Until now here I am old man  
 A little tired after a great Mexican meal  
 The bus is coming and I think I'll just go home and  
 Sit out on the dock and watch all the birds  
 Like Dad woulda' loved he always did I miss him I always will  
 He never got to be the old man that I am now  
 When he knew me I wasn't this old man  
 At all.





# GRANTS PASS

BY JOHN CURRAN

I love this place. It's giving me a second chance at real normal life where people are nice, warm, open and loving. I'm one who got into a jam at the place up towards Portland way at the Apts. Where I'd been living for almost 3 years.

The jam was such that I was forced from my place into homelessness faster than it takes to tell it yet at the same time not legally allowed to leave the state but put on an electronic waiting list, a call in once a month, for the services of a Public Defender. This apparently can take months and is a real blight in a state that wants to call itself progressive.

What am I supposed to do, wander the streets of Portland in the winter with no hope of any other Government funded housing as an option until my case is cleared up? That's what it amounts to, little do they seem to care whether I live or die in the meantime and I must ask, who is the actual victim here. The thought of suicide did cross my mind.

However I got real lucky. Through a wonderful VA case worker I got hooked up with news of an older couple down in southern Oregon who were in sudden need of a live in assistant/health care person. It was a perfect slot in the nick of time because I was losing it pretty quick after the slam bang socko the court had just decided to subject me to on top of the extreme nastiness of how the actual incident I was charged with had gone down. A lie can be a very serious and destructive thing.

Anyway, now I had a place to sit out however long the unraveling of all this was gonna take. So, Grants Pass and Dave and Darlene. I help them and they help me. And turns out Dave, who has real issues with

diabetes, is a member of the Grants Pass Center for Spiritual Living, a small local gathering of very nice people who meet in a beautiful setting on Sunday mornings and sing and praise whatever Lord is working for you.

The food afterwards is great as well, pot luck. And so I started going with Dave, ferried to and fro by Darlene, and at first I felt like the stranger trying to get all that dirt, somehow, off his face. But as time has gone on now I feel more comfortable and actually as if I kinda fit in too. And it was funny, the other Sunday I was there as usual and there we were in the midst of it all, singing and praising the Spirit and sometimes even touching the hand of the person next to you.

And maybe it was the great coffee I don't know but all of a sudden it just seemed so amazing that these people here were so sweet and kind and this entire atmosphere here at the Center for Spiritual Living was so just so beautiful, and the contrast of this with what I had just so recently been through up there at that other that I just broke down in tears.

What was it Jesus said let he without sin cast that first stone....

The bike riding is great here too, not so much traffic, still it does get a little cold, the good kind.





# Pullout—Directory of Resources

See inside

## Distributors Wanted!

**BE YOUR OWN BOSS \* CHOOSE YOUR HOURS!**

**It Works!**



**We're a quick, no barrier income**  
get paid the same day

Strike up a conversation & offer our paper for a donation. Each one costs \$1 and YOU keep the profits.

The Challenger is written & published monthly by 95 % un-housed people. The paper operates from a mobile office with 2 suitcases & a backpack. Our Director/Editor, Val, prints the paper at home, then we fold them when we meet.

If you submit an article, poem or art, you get 10 copies of the issue that you're published in.

We take Venmo, Cash app & PayPal. Make sure they put your name or badge number.

It might take a couple weeks to build your business. We are also digital online,

**Start with a free paper, sell it to get a \$1.00 kit.  
The kit comes with ID Badge & 10 papers to sell  
on a donation basis**

We meet

**Sundays 1-3 pm**

outside City Hall

(Guadalupe & Cesar Chavez)

or

If it's too hot or too cold-Central Library Rm 471

We're a 501C-3 non-profit

Challengenewspaper@yahoo.com

www.Challengenewspaper.org

Challenger Newspaper  
PO Box 151574 Austin, TX 78715  
512-560-4735

## JAIL MAIL PROGRAM

We want you, and anyone you know who is incarcerated, to write your voice in our paper. You should write neatly so we can type or any writing, art or drawings send by email. Yes, we will publish you!

We don't have free subscriptions, but if you're published we will send a copy.

Challenger Newspaper PO Box 151574 Austin, TX 78715 challengenewspaper@yahoo.com



**Sun-Thurs 1-7 PM**

**Fri-Sat 11am-7pm**

**Treasure City Thrift**  
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Books and more!  
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www.TreasureCityThrift.org

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FREE MARKET**

**LAST SUNDAY  
2-5 PM**

# Challenger Directory of Resources

Updated 12/2024

## Please notify

[Challengernewspaper@yahoo.com](http://Challengernewspaper@yahoo.com)

if you notice changes to the directory

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: Call 988

## DOMESTIC / SEXUAL VIOLENCE:

LASSA TX Hotline: 844-303-7233

SAFE 512.267.7233 [www.safeaustin.org](http://www.safeaustin.org)

VINE 512-936-1200 [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com)

Kind Clinic .833.937.5463 [www.kindclinic.org](http://www.kindclinic.org)

If this is insufficient or you need help reporting or treating an event, email Challenger ATTN: Jenny

**NAT'L SEX ASSAULT HOTLINE** 1-800-656-HOPE

**HUMAN TRAFFICING** 1 (888) 373-7888

**NAT'L HUMAN TRAFFICKING** Resource Center  
Text "HELP" or "INFO" to 233733 English, Spanish and 200 more, [traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://traffickingresourcecenter.org)  
<http://stopthetrafficking.org>

## NAVIGATIONS CENTERS:

**Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center** (M-F 9-1) .  
4430 Menchaca (Ben White) Hot meal, mail, showers, hygiene, ltd clothing, laundry, computer lab, triage referral/navigation: Service Point ID, Coordinated Assessment, MAP/Food stamp sign-up; Medical clinic (Th only), Integral Care; job resources, recovery support. **Hotline:** 512-522-1097 NARCAN VENDING MACHINE [sunrisenavigationcenter.org](http://sunrisenavigationcenter.org)

**Trinity Center:** 304 E. 7th St. Navigation/service ctr, meals, case mgmt, ID docs, Coordinated Assessment; MAP, SNAP, Food Stamp sign-up; bus passes, ltd travel assistance, clothes/showers (women only on Mondays), mail, phone, computer access, housing referrals. M-F 9a-1p, Sun. 3-4:30p Come in person/ no appts. [TrinityCenterAustin.org](http://TrinityCenterAustin.org)

**Charlie Center-Mosaic Church Navigation Cntr**  
2675 Research Blvd. (McNeil/183) 512-922-8954  
Tues, Wed, Thurs 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. ID's, Social Security Cards, Vital Records, Meal Served Daily, SNAP Sign-Up, Coordinated Assessments, Housing Info & Referrals, Case Management, Mail, Packages, Medication, Secure Document Storage [theCharlieCenter.org](http://theCharlieCenter.org)

## First Austin Baptist

Case management, Resource navigation, Call for appt. 512-476-2635, 901 Trinity St. [fbcaustin.org](http://fbcaustin.org)

## BATHROOMS:

-Public Restroom 4th & Trinity

-Public Restroom 6th & Brazos

-Portapotti 7th & Trinity

-Portapotti 6th & IH35

-Downtown Austin Community Court / 505 Barton Springs Rd / 8-5 Monday -- Friday

-Libraries

-Near city trails

## Shower and bathroom:

Rec Centers

Mon-Sat, 10a -3pm:

Bartholomew Pool  
1800 E. 51st St East

Barton Springs Pool  
2131 William Barton Dr Central

Springwoods Pool  
13320 Lyndhurst St. Northwest

Balcones Pool /closed for season  
12017 Amherst Dr. North

## Showers:

M-F Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center 8:30 -11am

M-F-- 7th & I-35 / 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

M-F-- Burnet and Hwy 183 / 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

**The Other Ones Foundation** A mobile hygiene truck (showers, sink and toilet)

## Barton Springs Pool

Shwrs available/Bath House being remodeled.

Swim at your own risk 5-8 am & 8-9:50 pm daily

8 am to 8 p (fee charged)

Closed Mondays & Thurs

VETERANS are always in free

## LAUNDRY:

### Mission Accomplished

Mobile laundry, (must have voucher) care packages and connections to assist in transitioning to stable, self-sufficient and healthy lifestyles. Ea location 9am-12N

Unscented soap available.

M-- Sunrise Navigation Ctr--4430 Menchaca Rd

Tu-Violet Storage--700 E.. 7 St (parking lot)

W, F, Sat-The Other Ones - 780 S. Hwy 183

W-The Charlie Center at the Mosaic Church 12675 Research Blvd.

## FOOD:

**Angel House / Austin Baptist Chapel** Soup Kitchen  
Food Pantry/breakfast/lunch - daily 9:30-10a, 11a-12:30p, 512-643-2327, 908 E.

Cesar Chavez St

**Bread For All: Food Bank** Faith Presbyterian Church at 1314 E Oltorf St, 5-6:30 pm Mondays. We also sponsor a mobile distribution with the food bank at Parker Lane United Methodist (2105 Parker Lane) second Monday of the month from 9-10 am. All are welcome. <https://austincitylutherans.org/food/>

**Caritas of Austin:** Housing, food, educ, employment, veterans assistance. Housing programs require referral via Coordinated Entry system. Daily Lunch 11a. CENTRAL: 611 Neches NORTH: 9027 Northgate Blvd. Lobby hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-11AM & 1-4:45PM. Tuesday 8-11AM & 1-6:45PM. Friday 8-11:45AM [caritasofaustin.org](http://caritasofaustin.org)

**Central Presbyterian** (200 E. 8th, corner of 8th and Brazos) Breakfast Thursdays 8-9 am, limited space, clothes and toiletries. 512-472-2445 [cpcaustin.org](http://cpcaustin.org)

## El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission:

Community Health Worker Training, Adult Educ, Youth Progs, Vaccines and Health Literacy. Office

hours: M-F 9a-5p, Food Help: T/Th 8a-10a 7000 Woodhue Dr, 512-439-8900, [ElBuen.org](http://ElBuen.org)

**Foundation Communities'** Prosper Health Coverage program provides FREE help for all people to find and use affordable health insurance or other health coverage programs. We have phone and in-person advice available. Call 512-381-4520, email [enroll@foundcom.org](mailto:enroll@foundcom.org), book an appointment online (<http://prosperhealthcoverage.org/>), or visit one of our community Prosper Centers at 5900 Airport Blvd. or 2900 South IH-35 from 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday

**Foundation for the Homeless / Feed My People** Tuesday/Thursday breakfast 5:30-7 am.. First United Methodist Church, Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca St. Showers, AA meetings, a clothing closet (Thursday only), showers, and haircuts (every other Thursday).

**Gateway Church** - Feed the Community Food Pantry, 7104 McNeil Dr. Wednesdays 9-11am

**Green Doors'** veterans (transitional housing) and affordable housing residents (affordable rental or PSH with vouchers) until capacity is full. They may require a brief hotel stay for folks seeking to join the transitional housing program (and Green Doors would cover the cost); affordable rentals are immediate admission because they are single occupancy. [info@greendoors.org](mailto:info@greendoors.org) or 512-469-9130 for information or applications.

**Good Apple** is providing FREE food assistance to folks 55+ and/or immuno-compromised, people can sign up on behalf of others who meet those criteria. Turnaround time varies but as of right now appears to be within 48 hours; may be one-time rather than on-going; one person reported getting 3 veggie farm-share bags and 3 bags of non-perishables.

**Mobile Loaves & Fishes** For locations and schedules, visit <http://www.mlf.org/truck-schedules>.

**The Other Ones Foundation** Work opportunities, out of town transportation assistance, emergency shelter. 512-568-7557 780 S. Hwy 183. [toofound.org](http://toofound.org)

**University Presbyterian Church/Micah 6** Food Pantry Thursdays at 5:30-7 pm and Saturdays at 9:30-11 am. 2203 SanAntonio St., micah6austin.org

**University United Methodist Church/ Open Door Ministry:** breakfast & clothing every Saturday from 8-9 am. 2409 Guadalupe St.

**Victory Ministries** (2300 Canterbury St) supplies are VERY LOW. People being served outside only. If able, PLEASE CALL 512-480-9628 to check status before coming.

**Westover Hills Church of Christ** Providing food (non-perishable groceries) for everyone Saturdays 9-11 am. Drive-thru style. Located at 8332 Mesa Dr., Austin, TX 78759. Food for Seniors

**Meals on Wheels and More [Main Office]**  
3227 E. 5th Street, Austin, TX 78702

Resource Directory con't

Updated 12/2024

**STORAGE/LOCKERS:**

**Violet Storage** 700 E 7th St. 96 gal barrel with lock. 7 days 7 am - 7 pm. To apply for a storage bin, show up at the facility. If you have a Photo ID, that will help. 512-974-4879

**EMPLOYMENT:**

**Challenger Street Newspaper**

Sign up 1-3 pm on Sundays outside City Hall, Guadalupe side. Low barrier self employment. Make money today and every day you work. Distribute the paper on a donation basis, you keep all profits.

*Challengernewspaper.org*

**Workforce First:** Offers individuals experiencing homelessness opportunity to work cleaning parks. Also offers case management. The program is on a waitlist that can take several months to get through. Must be 18+ and currently unoused. Call 512-568-7557 or email [brian@toofound.org](mailto:brian@toofound.org)

**Skillpointalliance.org** Job training: plumbing, HVAC, electrical, manufacturing. Women & Men 512-729-4922

[blueappleexpress@gmail.com](mailto:blueappleexpress@gmail.com) \$1600 per month rental assistance pilot program" and "bruisedapples.org" mentoring info without charging ad fees to founder.

**Fair Living Wage Calculator:** enter zip code *Www.universallivingwage.org*

**Shelter App:** Connecting People In Need to Services.

**REFERRALS:**

**First Call for Help :** 211 or 988  
Free, bilingual information & referral service about food, clothing, housing, child and youth services, job placement assistance, education, recreation, support groups and other programs and services.

**Arcilinc.org**  
CASE MANAGEMENT 512-832-6349



**▲ VETERANS ▼**

American Veterans Crisis Line  
1-800-273-8255 Text to 838255

Texas Veterans Commission [www.tvc.texas.gov](http://www.tvc.texas.gov)

V.A. 512-823-4100 7901 Metropolis Dr) 78744  
Outpatient Clinic: Primary healthcare, specialty care and hospitalization. Contact Andrew Miller  
Transitional housing for single veterans.

Caritas of Austin: 7th & Neches. Community Kitchen is serving lunch Monday-Friday 11 AM-12:30PM. Our clients receive case management/housing stability services and groceries through our food pantry. The lobby has public access to water, bathrooms, phones and info on community resources. Lobby hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8 -11AM & 1-4:45PM. Tuesday 8-11AM & 1-6:45PM. Friday 8-11AM

Green Doors 512-469-9130 1503 So IH35  
Housing First- Transitional, affordable, permanent housing.

Strike Force Help with VA benefit claim, denial or appeal, call 254-299-9950. See [www.tvc.state.tx.us](http://www.tvc.state.tx.us) for even more resources and links. 877-4AID-VET

Center Point Texas Veterans Program 512-297-2990 outreach, assessment of needs, vocational readiness training, housing assistance, job placement and referrals to job skills training programs for homeless Veterans . 2101 S. Interstate 35 Suite 219 Austin, TX 78741 Up to \$800 housing/car repair.

**SHELTER:**

**ARCH** Austin Resource Center for Homeless  
500 E. 7th St. 512-978-9920

**8th Street Shelter** for single women & transwomen Neches & 8th St (referral only)

**Esperanza Community** (Governors Camp): Started Nov 2019 780 S US Hwy 183 (Old Bastrop Hwy) between Briggs Equipment and Palm Harbor Homes. Contact the Other Ones Foundation for a space (512) 568-7557. Pets are welcome. Charging station, . Shower trailer Bus Route #217

**The Safe Alliance** Call for locations, 512-267-SAFE (7233) Emergency shelter, counseling, transitional housing and case managers for women escaping domestic & sexual violence. children & men also accepted.

**YOUTH:**

**Lifeworks** Under 27 yrs. 835 N. Pleasant Valley Rd. Mon-Thurs 12-4 pm Bus routes 300 & 493. Food, hygiene, bus passes, Wifi, gear, charging, mailing address, coordinated assessment.

**American Youth Works** 216 E. 4th St.  
High School Diploma Program, ages 16-20  
Also has a first-time home buyer program.

**Street Youth Ministry** 2008 Justin Ln

**SAFE CARES** a program of The SAFE Alliance, YOUTH 12-22 experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or human trafficking. Case management, advocacy, therapy, and Drop-In services. Call 512.267.7233(SAFE)

**SENIORS/ELDERS:**

**Family Eldercare** Outreach and in-home care for those over 60 years old. M-Th 8-4, Fri 8-12  
Call for locations, 512-450-0844

**Safelink** for 60 yrs+ FREE cell phones and service  
1-800-Safelink (1-800-723-3546)

**MEDICAL, DENTAL, MENTAL HEALTH:**

**Dell Seton Medical Center at UT** (formerly Brackenridge )  
512-324-7000 1500 Red River St. Emergency care-911

**ARCH Clinic-Community Care**  
500 E. 7th St. 512-978-9920 Mon-Fri 7-11 am & 12-4 pm. walk-ins and appointments

**MAP cards** 512-978-8130 1313 Red River Ste. 217A  
Mon. - Fri. 8am or 1 pm Homeless get right in.  
Screening and enrollment done on a walk in basis. appts preferred. Full coverage medical services with reduced or no copay. Must meet a set criteria.

**CARE CONNECTIONS CLINIC** Walk in. 3706 S. First St.

**Tuberculosis Elimination Clinic** 15 Waller St., TB testing. Also Community Care-Hancock Cntr

**BREAST CANCER ADVOCACY AWARENESS CENTER**  
1704 EAST 12TH ST 78702 512-965-6950  
[drduncan924@gmail.com](mailto:drduncan924@gmail.com)

**KIND CLINIC** Austin-Koenig Suite 200 Free HIV/STI walk-in testing No appt Mon-Fri 9 am-12pm & 1:30-4:30pm  
1-833-WE-R-KIND (1-833-937-5463) [kindclinic.org](http://kindclinic.org)

**THRA TX Harm Reduction Alliance** 512-893-3237  
Drop in 1803 E. Cesar Chavez St. Mon-Thurs 12:30-5 pm  
We offer support for people who use drugs, including tools, resources, and overdose prevention.

**RecoveryATX.org** Peer recovery/support 512-553-2683

**Manos de Cristo Dental Clinic** (wait in line or appt)  
4911 Harmon Av 78751 512-477-2319  
Emergency dental care for people who are working and don't qualify for city, state, or federal programs.  
[Manosdecristo.org](http://Manosdecristo.org)

**STD Clinic** 15 Waller St., 512-972-5430  
not anonymous, but confidential STD testing. Must have photo ID.

**AIDS Services of Austin** 7215 Cameron Rd., 512-458-2437 case management, testing, & a variety of financial services available. The Jack Sansing Dental Clinic is a part of AIDS services of Austin and operates on a sliding scale for all HIV positive clients.

**Integral Care.org** Crisis Helpline 512-472-4357 (HELP) 24/7 Immediate emotional support. 24 hr/day, 7 days/week. or you may call them and an outreach worker will come to you.

**S.H.A.C.** Self Help and Advocacy Center 3205 S 1st St. Drop in. 512-442-3366

**Austin Clubhouse** community of mutual support and recovery for adults living with mental health diagnoses [www.austinclubhouse.org](http://www.austinclubhouse.org) An applicant must: Be at least 18 yrs, have a mental health diagnosis, be following a treatment plan (doctor, psychiatrist, therapist, case worker, peer specialist, etc.). We do not require a referral letter from a health professional. To become a member call 512-925-5877 to schedule a tour. 610 E. 45th Street, Austin, TX 78751 (Inside Hyde Park Christian Church)

**MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES:**

Call 988 For Police w/mental health training, don't call 911, call 512-472-HELP.

Mental Health Information HelpLine  
1 (800) 950-NAMI (6264), Mon-Fri, 9.- 5, CST

**Healthcare for Homeless HUB** *co-located with Lonestar Circle of Care* 3000 Oak 512-532-9961 for appt.

**Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES)**  
1165 Airport Blvd Walk in M-F 8a-10p and Saturday/Sunday and holidays from 10a-8p.

East 2nd Street Clinic (Central Austin)  
1631 E 2nd Walk in M-F 8-5

Stonegate Clinic (So. Austin) 2501 W. William Cannon Dr, Bldg 4 Walk in M-F 8-5

St. John Clinic - (North Austin)  
6937 N. IH 35 Walk in M-F 8-5



## Directory continued

Www.aayhf.org

**African American Youth Harvest Foundation**  
6633 Hwy 290 E. Ste 307 (512) 428-4480  
ContactUs@aayhf.org

**H.O.S.T** Homeless Outreach Street Team  
512-804-3720

**We CanNow** Street Outreach  
**Sunrise Navigation** Outreach

**Suicide Lifeline** 800-273-TALK  
(8255) IF YOU TEXT 741741 WHEN YOU  
ARE FEELING DEPRESSED OR SUICIDAL, A  
CRISIS WORKER WILL TEXT YOU BACK  
IMMEDIATELY AND CONTINUE TO TEXT  
WITH YOU!

**Coalition of Texans with Disabilities** is at the  
corner of 18th & San Antonio, 1716 San Anto-  
nio St. Austin, Tx

**LEGAL:**

**Legal Aid Survivors of Sexual Assault**  
**1-844-303-SAFE** free legal assistance to  
survivors of sexual assault.

**Austin Tenants Council** 512-474-1961 (M-F  
9-12 and M-Th 1-4 PM)

**Camp Ban Tickets** TX Fair Defense Project  
512-637-5220 Press 0 Mon 12-5 pm & Thurs  
10 am-1pm or if in jail: Austin Lawyers Guild  
hotline 512-817-4254

**Community Court** 505 Barton Springs Rd first  
floor. Bus 1, 3, 7, 10, 20, 801

(1700 Guadalupe St) is the current,  
Travis County Civil Law Court House, which  
gets confused with old courthouse, 11th &  
Guadalupe & causes tardiness if you're not in  
the know. At the Current & old Court houses  
the cops do mag wand & scan your bag, coat, &  
belt & there's barriers to leaving the building  
too. But, at new courthouse they have a law  
library on 2nd floor, where law books & comput-  
ers with internet access, and law clerk librarians  
can help you research forms & methods for  
filing legal & business forms. All available for  
anyone wanting to study law or research what  
are common civic expectations, not taught or  
explained in public school.

**UTILITIES:**

Baptist Community Center Mission 2000  
E. 2nd St Elect, water, gas, meds, birth  
cert, food

**CLOTHING:**

Mobile Clothing TRUCK:  
Thrift-ish.org Contact for your group to  
have a free shopping experience

Really Really Free Market  
Last Sunday 2-5 PM  
Treasure City Thrift 2242 E. 7th St

**FREE HAIRCUTS::**

Supercuts Training Academy call ahead  
512-481-8900.  
Ron King Academy call ahead 512-596-  
5000. (tip expected)

**Foundation for the Homeless-** haircuts  
(every other Thursday). First United Meth-  
odist Church, Family Life Center, 1300  
Lavaca St.

**FOOD STAMPS, HUMAN SERVICES,  
MEDICAID:**

Texas Dept. of Human Services  
Moved to Capital Plaza 512-929-7330  
Women, infants & Children (WIC)  
Call for closest location, 1-800-942-3678

**HOUSING**

VA 7901 Metroplis Dr) 78744 (512) 823-  
4000  
Transitional housing for single veterans.

Blackland Community Development Corp.  
2005 Salina St., (512) 220-8751  
Transitional housing for families and single  
persons.

American Youth Works 216 E. 4th St.  
High School Diploma Program, ages 16-20  
Also has a first-time home buyer program.

Green Doors 512-469-9130 1503 So IH35  
Housing First-Transitional, affordable,  
permanent housing.

Project Transitions-Roosevelt Gardens  
HIV Housing Complex  
5606 Roosevelt Avenue  
The 40-unit homeless or unstably housed

Austin Housing Authority 1124 S. IH-35  
ATX, 78704. 512-477-4488 6 month to 2  
year; waiting list depends heavily on indi-  
vidual circumstance. [www.hacanet.org](http://www.hacanet.org)

Travis County Housing Authority 2200 E.  
MLK Jr. Blvd. 512-480-8245 Similar to  
Austin Housing Authority.

Foundation Communities  
Affordable housing for individuals and  
families with low to moderate incomes: 512-  
447-2026

Community First! Village Micro homes,  
trailers, canvas tents. [mlf.org](http://mlf.org) Hogeye Rd

Victory Homes Austin Greater Austin area  
as well as the surrounding cities. Lodging,  
food, and clothing is provided. Majority of  
people providing assistance are former  
addicts and gang members who at one time  
found themselves trapped in the same  
cycle.

For more info: Director Gus Celaya (512)  
920-8708 or Admin office 512-822-9182

**Excellence & Advancement Foundation**  
(EAF) provides programs, services and  
advocacy to break the school-to-prison  
pipeline by coordinating prevention and  
intervention programs to support children at  
risk of becoming involved in the criminal  
justice system. Below are some of the  
programs. For more info:  
<https://breakthepipeline.org/programs/>

Awesome Activist Leadership Program,  
Black Leadership Academy, SPARK  
change, The Wrap up, The Excellence  
Resource Center (this is the advocacy,  
case management program), Parenting  
with a purpose

**ART FROM THE STREETS STUDIO**

"Canopy" 916 Springdale Rd Bldg 2 Rm105  
Mon & Tues 10am-1pm Thurs 12-3PM  
(Women Only: Wed 12-3 PM)  
Art supplies provided for FREE! Participa-

tion allows each artist to be in the annual show in  
October!

**PET CARE:** [www.emancipet.org](http://www.emancipet.org) offers free  
days for pet care

**COOLING CENTERS:**

OASIS: behind ARCH, shade, bathrooms &  
water.  
Regular hours at Rec Centers &  
Public Libraries. Sorry, no pets.

**NO FREEZE SHELTER:**

**NEW THRESHOLD: 35' Dry, wet or windy.**  
**24 hr notice. HOT meal! Call for status**  
**512-972-5055 Free bus**

Single adult men and women, pets wel-  
come, please arrive at 505 Barton Springs  
Rd for registration, 6-8 PM or till flow stops.  
Rides to locations. Families with children,  
arrive by 6pm. **Pets now welcome!!**

**Notify Challengernewspaper**  
**@yahoo.com if you notice**  
**changes to the directory**

OASIS: (behind ARCH)  
shade, H2O & bathrooms  
8th Street Shelter for single  
women & transwomen  
Neches & 8th St (referral  
only)

Marshaling Yard: Appoint-  
ment only.

Esperanza open & will be  
expanding, they got more  
land adjacent.

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

# Challenger Newspaper

1. Distributors must wear  
their badges in a clear  
and visible way when  
pitching the  
paper.

2. Distributors must be  
sober and drug free  
when they pitch the  
paper.

3. Distributors are re-  
sponsible for their pa-  
pers once they pur-  
chase them.

**4. Distributors are not  
permitted to fight over  
territory, use abusive  
language, or exhibit  
aggressive behavior.**

5. Distributors can't  
pitch in doorways,  
directly in front of busi-  
nesses, or near ATM ma-  
chines.

6. Distributors must not  
give the "hard sell" to  
customers.

7. Stepping off the curb  
may get you a ticket.

8. Stay back 20 ft from  
marked crosswalks.

**Distributors who violate our  
code will be warned and  
suspended if it continues.**

**We need to  
police ourselves or the  
police will.**





**Homer The Homeless  
Goose's Demands**  
By Challenger Newspaper

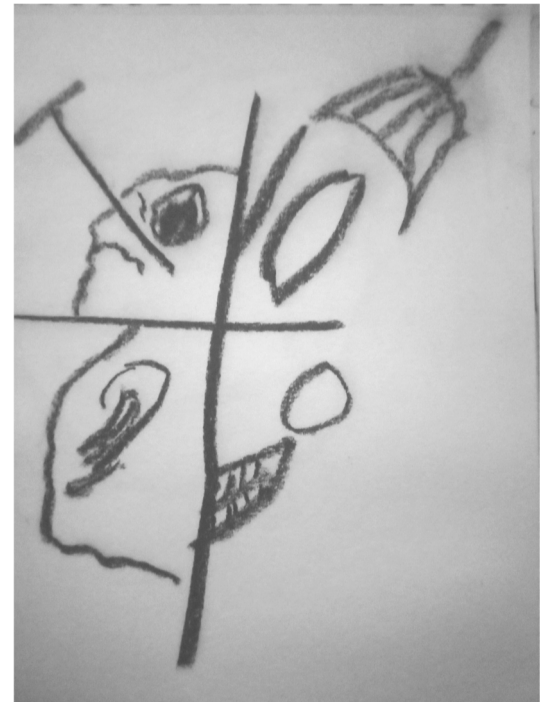
- More mental health care. TX is 47th in spending on mental health.
- Stop scraping camps and stop throwing all of ppls things away!
- Pay social workers a living wage!
- Women's shelter: Current one has appointments only. Must be able to walk in for safety.
- Phones easier to get
- *End oppressive ordinances. No more criminalizing the poor!*
- *Increase funding for homeless services*
- *Austin Living Wage*
- *Pets must be allowed at shelters—better mental and physical health (get brief orientation for socialization of pets)*
- *Get past Moral Bankruptcy and be fiscally responsible. It can cost 17 to 35 thousand/year/person to ticket, court, jail, police, hospitalize, ER, ambulance rides. When a person is housed (w/a social workers guidance) they stand up and walk back into society.*
- *Take the boards off vacant homes.*
- *Cooling/heat Center: behind ARCH— Oasis has shade, water and bathrooms*
- *Find me! Get me on public display!*

**NOT WITHOUT YOU MK-ULTRA**

BY MICHAEL KURTZ



The snow falls  
 The voice call's  
 The hall's haunt  
 Slow days gaze  
 One more thing to crave  
 A way out for the slave  
 Picture perfect delivery  
 Corse grains for veins  
 Psychobabble strains  
 Closets of distortion  
 Pine in silence  
 Powder paints all over the floor  
 Single out the problem  
 Isolate the dreams  
 Regard all thoughts as Patten's.  
 Store the glory of another  
 Fame from your selfish desire's  
 Score of a lifetime  
 Missing moments with you  
 Sex starve laze  
 I don't recall that special moment  
 Decline intime for failure's  
 Be there for the revival  
 No sign of survival  
 Trek of a thousand age's  
 Destinies plead with no words  
 Something to do, to succeed  
 A little more to bleed  
 The master steed  
 The sought after breed



**ART**

By Michael Kurtz

From "The Fractured Mind Series"

# OUR TEAM

## SOME OF OUR DISTRIBUTORS & CONTRIBUTORS



Jesse G.  
Badge # 165  
Door to Door  
Photo by Val Romness



Christopher C.  
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Joe Nichols  
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Around town  
Photo by Val Romness



Lorenzo  
Badge # 414  
5th/6th Lamar  
Photo by Val Romness



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Distributor/ writer



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DeAntonio L. Brown  
Badge #467  
Photo By Val Romness



Sunshine Sami  
Badge # 433  
Photo by selfie



Erick The Dream  
Giver on Youtube  
Badge # 489  
Photo by Val Romness



Greg Bordelon  
Badge # 492  
Photo by Val Romness



Thom Woodward  
Badge # 284  
Photo by Val Romness



Chrystal  
Badge #289  
Photo by Val Romness



Twinkle Toes  
Badge # 490  
Photo by Val Romness



Dan Goff  
Badge # 493  
Photo by Selfie



Kaye Lee  
Badge # 434  
Photo by Val Romness

Watch our documentary!

<https://vimeo.com/176352813>

“Challenger: Voices from the Street”



**LIFT FROM THE  
BOTTOM  
EVERYBODY  
RISES**

Nihil de nobis,  
sine nobis.  
Nothing about us  
without us

# GRINGO!

## MY SMASH SCREWDRIVER

### GUARDIAN ANGEL

BY DANG!!!X >\$DC<

ROAD DOGG!!!  
VAN LIVIN' DAN...



Battling a day of major wars, sores and obstacles I resort to "vitamin c";

Smirnoff Ice SMASH SCREWDRIVER.

\*By NOW; I'm surprised my CHALLENGER articles aren't downright SPONSORED by Smirnoff Ice SMASH Screw-  
Driver

NOT A DRUNK BY ANY MEANS (it's like a shot of adrenaline. ALCOHOL THE INSTANT VACATION!)

Night arrives and I head to my usual spot at QuikTrip (Albeit the dumpsters placed; an obvious sign for overnighters to F' OFF already.

Gas station; YES. NOT! Truck nor Travel Center...which is MEANT 24/7 for travelers off all sorts.)

Falling asleep on my steering wheel as usual...

THATs WHEN "GRINGO!" COMES KNOCKING ON MY DRIVER SIDE DOOR

\*GRINGO! Is a maaaaybe 5'5" greasy gross slicked back black hair Hispanic "BRO" with big sunglasses sporting green and black flannel shirt with baggy pants. Prison style? Nooot THAT I noticed; prison style meaning pants sag in the back revealing a good portion of undergarment. (Advertising their goods and services to remain civil, alive and well connected to other prisoners. SURVIVAL LITERALLY BEING A PAIN IN THE ASS.)

First GRINGO! asks for a lighter.

I DONT SMOKE; I DON'T HAVE A LIGHTER; I repeatedly reply.

GRINGO! gets the message and walks off into Quik-Trip.

BACK<=== to my steering wheel to snooze >>> Zzzz  
GRINGO! Returns knocking on my door with a bag of stuff.

I open the door and repeatedly say NO THANK YOU to GRINGO! offers.

"I'm good man. I'm good ese." I say; over and over and over.

I shut driver door;

WHY YOU SCARED? GRINGO! continues to ask through the driver window.

GRINGO! goes to my passenger side window to talk.

\*DRIVER SIDE window doesn't work and passenger side window is stuck midway HENCE the igloo bag

protection.

(HONORARY Texas resident! Tip of the cowboy hat to TEXAS DOT.)

REMEMBER MY NAME! GRINGO! says over and over YOU NEVER TOLD ME YOUR NAME I say.

\*JESUS F'N CHRIST; shut my DANNNG!!! mouth.

WHATs MY NAME?! GRINGO! repeatedly asks.

HAVE A GOOD NIGHT! I repeat and repeat and repeat.

GRINGO! saddles near a light pole in front of van to adjust his shopping bag; I drive off into the distance (only to loop back to the same spot)

GRINGO! left behind a half drank orange bottle.

Return to snooze and hours later wake;

the half drank orange bottles remains on the light pole.

Do my business in the QT restroom and take a cup from the fountain drink area.

Enroute to light pole in front of van to SPIN THE BOTTLE to its label; low and behold GRINGO! left behind a Smirnoff Ice SMASH SCREWDRIVER.

I smirk.

I chuckle.

Okay. Okay. Okay;

I say.

I pour the half bottle into a cup and drink the rest. (Taste piss??? Did GRINGO! drug it??? Nooooope just the usual buzz.)

GRINGO! and I share the same karma...and TASTE.

GRINGO! \*shrugs\* trying to appease DANG!!!X >\$DC<

GRINGO! May have just been a greasy gross Hispanic guardian angel...leaving behind Smirnoff Ice SMASH SCREWDRIVER on my nightstand; THAT IS the light pole in front of Van LIVIN' Dan.

Pissy GRINGO!

(Resisting his gratitude towards me and leaving his drink behind.)

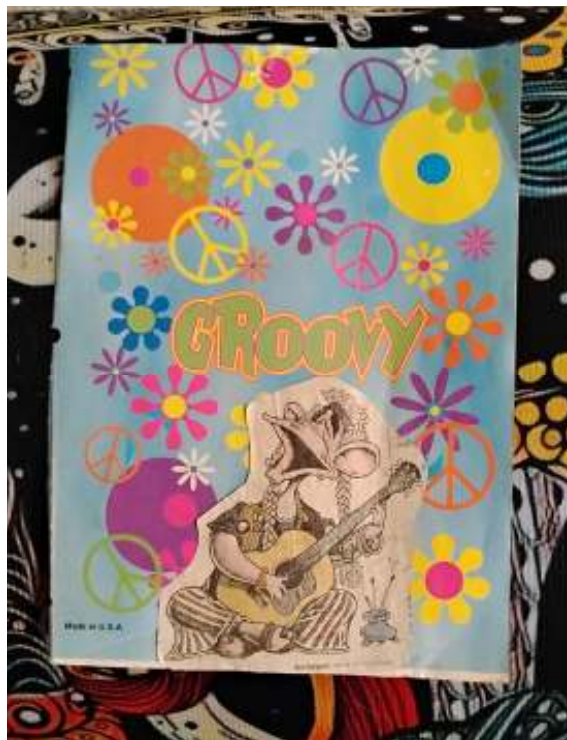
The universe cares EVEN WHEN IT COMES ACROSS as annoying...and DANGerous.





# ART

BY KAYE LEE



George W. Bush



ChallengerNewspaper.org



## INSURGENT SURVIVAL

### REFLECTIONS ON THE FIGHT AGAINST SWEEPS TARGETING THE HOMELESS IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

2024-11-26 BY ANONYMOUS (REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION)

In 2019, militants in Austin, Texas started an organization with the aim of defending homeless camps against sweeps—forced removals disguised as “cleanups” carried out by cops and work crews. This organization, **Stop the Sweeps**, intervened in a cycle of struggles that included the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the George Floyd uprising, and the winter storm of 2021 while attempting to consolidate a pole for confrontational activity and strategic thinking. Here, we explore the history of this movement in detail, seeking to distill lessons about autonomous organization that can aid revolutionaries in future struggles against dispossession.



In June 2019, Austin City Council passed a reform legalizing “camping,” taking away the tool of misdemeanor ticketing from the Austin Police Department, which had used it for two decades to push homeless encampments into the deep woods and routinely dispossess the residents. The NGO left promoted this as a dramatic advance in the civil rights of houseless people, while NextDoor reactionaries decried it as a sign of the debasement of the once great city of Austin. In the news and on Twitter, Texas’s Republican Governor Greg Abbott exchanged barbs with Democratic Austin Mayor Steve Adler, each taking one of these sides. The following November, friends and comrades formed Stop the Sweeps Austin (STS), a political intervention intended to undermine both of those positions. The core aim of STS was to show that both the progressive city and the reactionary state used similar techniques, rationales, and low-wage contractors guarded by police to systematically dispossess the poorest and most marginalized people in Austin—and that in doing so, they were continuing policies of displacement that had begun more than a century earlier with colonization and the policing of enslaved and formerly enslaved populations. Confronting the sweeps was both materially and discursively strategic. The idea was to cut away at the foundation of the post-decriminalization strategy for displacement,

heightening antagonism towards both of the political factions that depended upon it. To do this, Stop the Sweeps Austin rallied sympathizers to intervene against weekly encampment sweeps by city and state forces while building parallel networks of mutual aid and political support. STS drew on existing solidarity networks descended from decades-running projects, informed by the living memory of the social movements of the homeless in the 1980s. We also benefitted from historical research and movement elder storytelling to extend our understanding of local history to the founding of Austin.



*The sweeps are intended to destroy what little stability and sense of home the houseless are able to establish.*

We now recognize that we were a part of a national movement against sweeps that peaked early in the COVID-19 pandemic, drawing on the momentum of the George Floyd Uprising. Autonomous groups in California, including the Sacramento Homeless Union and Where Do We Go in Berkeley, had been organizing against sweeps through 2019. In an early phase of STS organizing, we were roped into coalition building and national legal work by the Western Regional Advocacy Project; yet these projects did not offer meaningful coordination between groups to advance an autonomous vision grounded in direct action. There were efforts in Los Angeles to build out anti-sweep programs that seemed similar to ours from afar, though they started from a stronger orientation towards social democratic city politics. Fiercer resistance in Minneapolis built to flashpoints in 2020 including the occupation of an empty hotel and militant encampment defense. The circulation of the insurrectionary framework “You Sweep, We Strike” saw attacks on contractors and city infrastructure in Seattle, Santa Cruz, and Minneapolis. It was difficult to connect with these projects to learn from them directly, but

easy to boost each other’s content from afar. Five years after the founding of Stop the Sweeps Austin and two years after its quiet dissolution, we are writing this piece in hopes of refining the lessons of this recent high point of movement activity. We will begin by painting a picture of the moment in 2019 when Stop the Sweeps emerged, then situate that moment in a longer history of colonization, development, and homeless resistance. Having done so, we will distill the strategic frameworks that guided our organizing, then follow the trajectory of the movement to the limits it encountered. In each section, we will present our hypotheses and the lessons we learned along the way, illustrated via specific practical experiences.

We offer these as reflections both for the local movement—to remind it of its history, its victories and defeats—and for revolutionaries everywhere seeking to think through crucial questions about autonomous organization. Today, we are preparing to confront a new phase of camp repression in the wake of the Supreme Court’s “Grants Pass” decision, which greenlights criminalization and displacement in California and elsewhere.



*A sign on a tent in downtown Austin.*

Read the whole article here

<https://crimethinc.com/StoptheSweeps>

# MY ENGAGEMENT TRIP TO HAWAII

BY TWINKLE TOES 1ST BADGE #490

Ok, our trip begins right after Mama retired and we flew from San Antonio to Honolulu, Hawaii. It was quite a long flight, I think around 10 to 12 hours. Once in Honolulu, we boarded our cruise ship and got settled in our rooms for that evening and they had a party on deck for everybody and we enjoyed that. They did all of the sailing at night time. That way we were just on the water at night where all you would see is just water and then daytime we would be able to take shore excursions and have a good time on land.

Since it has been such a long time, I don't remember the exact things we did every day. I do remember however, many of the things we did, just not in order. I do know that one of our first trips was to the island of Maui, where we took the coast road and we saw a blow hole where the ocean water with the force of the waves came through holes in the beach and it shot plumes of water high into the air. I also believe that on the island of Maui is where we saw the Grand Canyon of the Pacific. I'm not 100% positive on that however, if that was where it was. It was very beautiful and very different, but it was definitely a large canyon. Another shore excursion was to Volcanoes National Park. So many lava flows across the large caldera of one of the major volcanoes. It was one of the many activities such as learning to play the ukulele and how to make the lays, how to hula dance and other activities like all cruise ships. There was not a shortage of food to eat. We really enjoyed the meals. We enjoyed the quality of the food and I also enjoyed giving Stephenie her engagement ring while at dinner one evening. After we finished our trip in Hawaii one other thing that I forgot as we were leaving, we were able to see from a distance the area in Pearl Harbor where the memorial to the battleship Arizona rest at the bottom of the sea. When we finished that, we went back to the Honolulu airport where we had

about a 10 hour wait before our flight left for San Francisco. So when we landed in San Francisco, we caught another flight into San Antonio. That made for a very, very, very long day. We made it home safe and sound and it was a wonderful trip and I wish we could do it again!

Oh yeah, I forgot to mention one night they had a luau and I was in the front row in my wheelchair. One of the hula girl dancers asked if she could get a volunteer from the audience, and well the rest was history.

(Special thanks to Dad for helping remember these details!)



Twinkle Toes dancing with Hula Girl-Maui

Randy Armstr...  
@Randy-Armstron...



venmo



Randy Armstrong  
Scan to pay \$TWINKLEtoesarts

wakeupalice@gmail.com



# THE OTHER ONES FOUNDATION

*Pls support our advertisers*

**Offering humanitarian aid, case management, and extremely low barrier work opportunities to people experiencing homelessness in Austin, TX.**

## **WORKFORCE FIRST**

**ARE YOU:**

- **Unhoused and over 18?**
- **Looking for work opportunities and case management?**

**Contact The Other Ones Foundation's Workforce First Program:  
Call 737-320-4863 or email [lesha.blunt@toofound.org](mailto:lesha.blunt@toofound.org)**

## **GOING HOME**

**ARE YOU:**

- **Unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused?**
- **In need of one time transportation fare to get to a family member or friend in another city?**

**Contact The Other Ones Foundation's Going Home program:  
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August 13, 1967



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